

09807448 041101

25. (New) A method of production of a high strength $\alpha + \beta$ titanium alloy pipe as set forth in claim 7, wherein the high strength $\alpha + \beta$ titanium alloy plate of a thickness of at least 6 mm is a high strength $\alpha + \beta$ titanium alloy plate which is worked at a reduction of at least 50% in a temperature region of not more than a β -transus temperature and is annealed in a temperature region of not more than the β -transus temperature.

26. (New) A method of production of a high strength $\alpha + \beta$ titanium alloy pipe as set forth in claim 7, characterized by performing heat treatment comprising heating the welded pipe to at least the β -transus temperature and cooling at a cooling rate of at least air cooling and further heating to 650°C to 850°C, holding it there for at least 30 minutes, and cooling at a cooling rate of not more than air cooling.

27. (New) A method of production of a high strength $\alpha + \beta$ titanium alloy pipe as set forth in claim 7, characterized by performing a series of heat treatments comprising heating the welded pipe to at least the β -transus temperature and cooling at a cooling rate of at least air cooling, further heating to 650°C to 850°C, holding it there for at least 30 minutes, and cooling at a cooling rate of not more than air cooling, and heating to 450 to 650°C, holding it there for at least 2 hours, and cooling at a cooling rate of not more than air cooling.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to eliminate multiple dependent claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the title by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Versions with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 11, 2001

By: Edward W. Greason
Edward W. Greason
Reg. No. 18,918
KENYON & KENYON
One Broadway
New York, NY 10004
Telephone No. (212) 425-7200
Facsimile No. (212) 425-5288